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ACTION SCT-03

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-17	ACDE-00	AID-01	ARA-01	A-01	CA-02
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	COME-00	CTME-00	OASY-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	DS-00	EB-01	FBIE-00	H-01
	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	L-01	ADS-00	M-00
	NEA-01	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIS-01	OMB-01	PA-01
	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00
	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00	DSCC-00
	DRL-09	G-00	/045W				

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R 202116Z JUL 94
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1076
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
FAA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM//SCCC//

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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PTER, ASEC, AR
SUBJECT: MENEM DECREE ESTABLISHES SECURITY SECRETARIAT
- IN WAKE OF AMIA BOMBING
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REF: BUENOS AIRES 3424

1. (U) ARGENTINE PRESIDENT CARLOS MENEM SIGNED A DECREE CREATING A "SUPER SECRETARIAT" FOR SECURITY JULY 19, ONE DAY AFTER A BOMB DESTROYED ARGENTINA'S JEWISH MUTUAL ASSOCIATION (AMIA). RETIRED ARMY BRIGADIER GENERAL ANDRES ANTONETTI WILL HEAD THE NEW ORGANIZATION. ANTONETTI FORMERLY SERVED AS THE PRESIDENCY'S MILITARY CHIEF OF STAFF. HE IS CURRENTLY

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SECURITY SECRETARY IN THE FEDERALLY-INTERVENED
PROVINCE OF SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO.

2. (LOU) MENEM SHELVED AN EARLIER SECURITY
SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL IN LATE MAY AFTER INTENSE FEUDING
BETWEEN MINISTRIES AND PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN
ABOUT THE CONCENTRATION OF POLICE POWERS, BUT THE AMIA
BOMBING HAS GIVEN NEW IMPETUS TO THE PLAN (REFTEL).

3. (U) MENEM'S DECREE CITED THE GOVERNMENT'S NEED TO
FIGHT CRIMES FALLING UNDER FEDERAL JURISDICTION,
EMPHASIZING "TERRORIST ATTACKS LIKE THAT AT AMIA,
WHICH REQUIRE OPTIMAL USE OF MATERIAL AND HUMAN
RESOURCES." THE FEDERAL POLICE, COAST GUARD AND
NATIONAL BORDER GUARD WILL NOW COME UNDER ANTONIETTI'S
DIRECTION IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS. HE WILL ALSO
PRESIDE OVER THE COUNCIL FOR INTERIOR SECURITY.
INTERIOR UNDERSECRETARY HUGO FRANCO RESIGNED WHEN HE
LEARNED OF THE DECREE. THE CHIEF OF THE ARGENTINE
FEDERAL POLICE (AFP) COMISARIO GENERAL JORGE PASSERO
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HAS ALSO RESIGNED. COMISARIO GENERAL ADRIAN PELACHI,
THE FORMER CHIEF OF THE AFP DRUG DIVISION WAS NAMED BY
THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND PRESIDENT MENEM AS THE
NEW CHIEF OF POLICE.

4. (LOU) COMMENT: PELACHI IS WELL AND FAVORABLY
KNOWN TO THE EMBASSY. BY RESTRUCTURING AND SHORING UP
THE HIERARCHY OF THE FEDERAL POLICE, THE GOA IS MOVING
QUICKLY TO STAUNCH CRITICISM OVER ALLEGED LAX SECURITY
RESULTING IN THE AMIA BOMBING.

GODARD

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